

B'cnit

dimensional array of cells and wherein the format of the symbol is such as to facilitate accommodation of the substrate on components or carriers for the components.

B3

16. (Amended) A label according to claim 1 wherein the substrate is a component or component carrier substrate.

B2

17. (Amended) A method of labelling electronics components comprising attaching to the components or carriers for the components a substrate carrying a coded data symbol, wherein the coded data symbol comprises a two dimensional array of cells.

18. (Amended) A vision system for reading a coded data symbol on an electronics component label, wherein the coded data symbol comprises a two dimensional array of cells, comprising means for producing light for illuminating the symbol and means for detecting a two dimensional pattern of light reflected from the symbol.

B4

20. (Amended) An electronics component labelling system comprising a label carrying a coded identifier symbol for attachment to a component or component carrier, wherein the coded identifier symbol comprises a two dimensional array of cells, a vision system for reading and decoding the label and data storage means for storing at a location identifiable according to the decoded identifier data relevant to the component.

21. (Amended) An electronics component or component carrier having a label attached thereto, which label comprises a substrate and a coded data symbol carried by the substrate, wherein the coded data symbol comprises a two dimensional array of cells and

Beneclit

wherein the format of the symbol is such as to facilitate accommodation of the substrate on the components or carrier.

22. (Amended) A method of producing a label for electronics components, comprising providing a substrate, providing an etchable layer on the substrate and etching a coded data symbol into the etchable layer, wherein the coded data symbol comprises a two dimensional array of cells.

Remarks

In response to the Office communication dated April 22, 2002, with reference to the above identified application, the following remarks are made:-

The Examiner rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Nova, Hass and the Moh patents. Claim 1 has therefore been amended as above. Basis for this amendment can be found on page 4 of this application, lines 24-32, and in figures 1 and 2.

Nova (US Patent No. 6,025,129) relates to "remotely addressable or remotely programmable recording devices" and to "methods for electronically tagging molecules, biological particles and matrix support materials" (Nova, abstract). These devices "contain (i) a miniature recording device that includes one or more programmable data storage devices (memories) that can be remotely read and in preferred embodiments also remotely programmed" (Nova, col. 4 lines 33-37).